

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro, Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

I am requesting funding for the Morehouse School of Medicine Academic & Research Building in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is Morehouse School of Medicine, located at 720 Westview Drive SW, Atlanta, GA 30310-1495.

Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) has initiated a project to expand the academic and research capabilities of the Institution. The recent growth in the size and diversity of the student body is not only been necessary to train more healthcare professionals committed to underserved communities, but also requires expanded space and resources on campus. More classrooms, lecture spaces, learning communities, research laboratories, and common spaces for knowledge sharing are all needed to meet the needs of a growing student body. The proposed building is 100,000 square feet in space, at a project cost estimate of \$100M. As such, the initial step is to provide an architectural design for approval for the administration to align with the educational needs of students. Followed this first step would be to secure construction documentation for permitting by Fulton County and City of Atlanta authorities. The proposed building will be located on the main campus of MSM between the National Center for Primary Care building and the Medical Education building.

This project is a good use of taxpayer dollars because it will provide critical support in the Institution's mission to improve and diversify the healthcare workforce. This will aid MSM's impact in teaching more students to meet local, state and national physician shortages and health professions shortages, while also increasing diversity of the health workforce.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nikema Williams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress